Dockets Management Branch Food and Drug Administration Department of Health and Human Services 12420 Parklawn Dr., Room 1-23 Rockville, MD 20857

RE: docket number, 98P-0203/CP

May 1, 1999

Dear Administrators,

I am writing in opposition to forced molting, the cruel practice of withholding food for up to 2 weeks from egg laying hens. The result of this stress and trauma is the starving death of hundreds of thousands of birds. The survivors are pathetic beings with little strength, poor health, and a loss of all feathers

Research has shown that forced molting significantly increases the frequency and severity of salmonella enteritidis among hens. This immense inhumane practice results in contaminated flesh and eggs.

There is no justification for showing the world that the U.S. advocates animal cruelty. Please stop forced molting!

Sincerely,

Barbara J. Bogner, O.D. 314 W. LeMarche Ave.

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Phoenix, AZ 85023

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